



Report of Project Activities

Department of Labor and Workforce Development
Division of Business Partnerships



DENALI TRAINING FUND

PROGRESS REPORT

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: University of Alaska NAME OF PROJECT: Allied Health Training Phase II REPORT PERIOD: April 1, 2006- June 30, 2006

PROJECT ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

CHAP and Distance Delivery

Much of our work went into getting personnel in place, trained and ready to assist CHAP in their training and delivery of courses. (most is reported within the other document).

CHAP Forum

This forum was held April 24-27th as planned with over 27 participants, all requesting UA credit and all passing. A complete list will be attached to this report.

CHAP Medical Standing Orders-MSO

The CHAP liaison, Linda Curda, developed a roll out and training plan for the newly released CHAM. She worked closely with ANTHC to also develop further training around the new document to better integrate it into the village CHAP system. More is reported in the other document.

Medical Office-Health Care reimbursement (HCR)

A trip was taken with the new Allied Health Coordinator to discuss Bethel needs for future training.

Our program is working on 5 occupational endorsements in health care. In addition Pam is exploring the development of the pre-nursing AS Degree and in conjunction with TVC will be ready to submit paperwork for approval in fall of 2006.

Trainee Success at UAF

Lilly Sommer was hired as the Trainee Success Coordinator and plans are developed to link this position with the others at the other MAU's. Our goal is to work closely with them to see if we can build on each others initiatives. A meeting in Anchorage is scheduled to develop the years work plans which incorporate the Alaska Center for Rural Health logic model exploration about getting and supporting students in the UA system.

Pharmacy Careers: This quarter four courses were offered in the pharmacy technician series. The number of students exploring this program continues to grow. Spring semester registration was 50 students. 6 students completed the series and will receive a UAA Occupational Endorsement as a pharmacy technician.

The faculty began the UAA curriculum review process so this series can become a transcribed Occupational Endorsement. One additional credit will be added to make this a 16 credit Endorsement. The Advisory Committee has reviewed and recommended that 1 credit to be a “virtual” practice class. The Trainee Success Coordinator interacted with YKHC Pharmacy this quarter in efforts to recruit students/employees into this set of 6 courses.

Medical Laboratory Careers: This quarter 4 Clinical Lab Assistant courses and 1 phlebotomy course were offered with a total of 21 students registered for these online classes. We will continue to offer the Phlebotomy Procedures 101 and Specimen Processing 194D in distance form. The faculty member added more interactive, synchronous learning through new web conferencing software at UAA called Elluminate Live. The Mentoring Handbook for health industry preceptors who mentor student placements was completed and ready for distribution/training next quarter. The Phlebotomy and Clinical Assisting Programs were turned into transcribed Occupational Endorsements this quarter so all future completers will be able to note this on their transcripts into perpetuity.

Radiographic Careers: The first cohort of 9 Limited Radiography students from YKHC completed the last class in the 3-series course this semester. Two students work at the Bethel hospital while the other 7 work in sub regional clinics: Emmonak, Aniak, St. Mary’s. A second Limited Radiography cohort of 18 students enrolled for their first class Spring semester 2006. Fifteen of this group resides in Southeast Alaska, (SEARHC employees) 1 in Emmonak and 2 in Anchorage . In order to offer this second cohort, clinic/hospital-based laboratory mentors had to be established to oversee the clinical practice portion of this program. This class is primarily web-delivered didactic, though the faculty member expanded to add some synchronous web-conferencing “class time”. Coordination with the Trainee Success coordinator model will be implemented in the YKHC region next quarter. See Trainee Success description for more detail.

Community Wellness Advocate Careers: Planning for the health promotion tract for elders is actively moving forward.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT REPORTING PERIOD:

CHAP Pre-Session I

The pilot is being refined finalized and for later distribution this quarter. This pilot will provide an off the shelf asynchronous delivery of course content and can be recorded/archived for evaluation after course completion.

The new Community Health Aide/Practitioner Manual (CHAM) requires that the Pre-Session I Handbook revision be completed this quarter. Work was started on this by one of the designers but more will need to be done to finish this effort. Additional activities include: working with an advisory board of CHAP field staff for review and input; creating a mentor system in the village clinic to work with the students; producing a “Mentor’s Handbook” with activities and quizzes; and a new student recruitment and selection process.

CHAP Trainee Support

Equipment has been ordered and will be installed later this quarter at ANTHC that will allow a complete resource room for CHAP trainers. An MOA will need to be written between the University and ANTHC about the equipment and legal use of materials kept in that area. Goals are to be able to train via distance using a blend of technologies that should enhance the course and learning objectives.

Medical Office-Health Care Reimbursement (HCR)

The Allied Health staff will begin to lay out the plans for an Pre-Nursing AS degree based on a similar model developed by UAS. This pipeline will be made available to all CHAP participants and to those individuals in the villages that live near a rural campus expecting to host the Nursing Degree. The expectation is this series of courses will help those students prepare academically for the rigors of the Nursing degree and to compete for the limited entry positions. Other options will be developed for CHAP personnel too such as a pipeline to a Rural Development degree.

Plans are to have 2 Occupational Certificates ready in Allied Health for the fall 2006 process and three more completed by Spring 07.

Trainee Success at UAF

Our department is completing an Enrollment Management Plan which can be shared later this month. This is identifying clear targets for Lilly and the faculty. Our goal is to not only improve student support but to also increase program completers. We will plan to follow students to see if they achieved better jobs or increases in salary after their efforts at the University. A marketing packet is in development and Lilly is working with our staff to further develop our website to increase student support efforts as a part of it. Lilly has been working with our department and the Instructional design manager in the development of a data base to better track students and to help design individualized career and learning plans. Based on this work she has already initiated numerous calls to current and former students to see how they have progressed.

Trainee Success at UAA

More trips to Bethel are planned to provide assessment testing, to help dental assisting students sign up for classes, and to continue developing partnerships within the community. Trainee Success Coordinators will meet in Anchorage to discuss the results of the Root Cause Analysis project and to develop a coordinated course of action for the coming year.

Pharmacy Careers: A final 1 credit course will be developed fall semester in preparation for establishing this offering as a transcribed University of Alaska Occupational Endorsement for Pharmacy Technicians.

The Allied Health Forum was held in early May with breakout groups in all the Denali program areas. In the Pharmacy Breakout group there was strong interest to establish a pre-pharmacy curriculum and build partnerships with existing Schools of Pharmacy, like University of Hawaii, Creighton University or Montana State University. These directional discussions will be advanced in the coming quarters since Alaska has no advanced degree program for pharmacy training, and has a major workforce shortage.

Medical Laboratory Careers:

We will continue to offer the Phlebotomy Procedures 101 and Specimen Processing 194D in distance form. Recruitment was completed and hiring will be completed for the faculty person who resigned last semester. This is a very difficult teaching field to recruit due to very high salaries paid by the health industry compared to University salary levels.

Radiographic Careers: Based on workforce needs for Radiographic Technicians in rural Alaska, we hope to build on the YKHC Limited Radiography group of completers to begin offering the AAS degree to a small Bethel cohort by Fall 2007. Potential applicants for this highly competitive program will be supported by Kuskokwim Campus and UAA to complete need pre-requisites and General Education requirements so they can apply to the program next May. The trainee success coordinator will be instrumental in supporting this effort.

PROBLEMS, DELAYS OR CONCERNS EXPERIENCED:

Pharmacy Careers: There are no delays or problems arising for this activity. The economics of health care and pharmacy practice are creating movement from the retail industry to increase responsibilities of pharmacy technicians and increase efficiencies of pharmacists time and reduce labor costs. This could contribute to higher demand for the pharmacy technician training UAA offers. We will be keeping a close eye on this dynamic.

Medical Laboratory Careers: The full time faculty working on these activities resigned in December. She will continue to teach 2 classes, one in distance form and track some of the students working on a year-long course completion for phlebotomy, until we are able to recruit her replacement. Any further development of AAS Medical Lab Tech courses is on hold until that hiring is completed.

Radiographic Careers: No issues to address.

Trainee Success at UAA: No issues to address

Community Wellness Advocate Careers: Integrate curriculum in the UAS AAS degree in Health Sciences; continue offering standard course work

PCA to CNA Careers: PCA Bridge course will be offered again for online distance delivery after incorporating any needed changes learned from pilot; develop CNA course for online distance delivery pilot in Fall 06 semester; collaborate with state workgroup on CNA pilot program development.

POSSIBLE PROBLEM RESOLUTIONS AND TIMEFRAMES:

Pharmacy Careers: There are no delays or problems arising for this activity. The economics of health care and pharmacy practice are creating movement from the retail industry to increase responsibilities of pharmacy technicians and increase efficiencies of pharmacists time and reduce labor costs. This could contribute to higher demand for the pharmacy technician training UAA offers. We will be keeping a close eye on this dynamic.

Medical Laboratory Careers: With hiring of new faculty in July, the program will be stabilized and continue distance delivery of phlebotomy, clinical assisting and development of AAS courses for eventual distance delivery.

Radiographic Careers: No issues to address.

Trainee Success at UAA: No issues to address

Certification: I certify that the above information is true and correct and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreement.



Karen Perdue, AVP – Health Programs

Name and Title

Signature

Date